WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A snowboard binding comprising:

a base member having a front portion, a rear portion and a longitudinal axis extending between said front and rear portions; and

a rear binding member coupled to a first lateral side of said rear portion of said base member, said rear binding member including a first latch member movable relative to said base member, said first latch member being pivotally supported about a first pivot axis substantially parallel to said longitudinal axis,

said first latch member being arranged to move laterally upon application of a force in a direction substantially towards said base member.

2. A snowboard binding according to claim 1, wherein

said rear binding member is a first rear binding member and said snowboard binding further comprises:

a second rear binding member coupled to a second lateral side of said rear portion of said base member, said second rear binding member including a second latch member movable relative to said base member, said second latch member being pivotally supported about a second pivot axis substantially parallel to said longitudinal axis,

said second latch member being arranged to move laterally upon application of a force in the direction substantially towards said base member.

3. A snowboard binding according to claim 2, further comprising

a front binding member movably coupled to said front portion of said base member between a release position and a latched position.

4. A snowboard binding according to claim 2, wherein

said first and second latch members are arranged to move laterally apart relative to each other from first and second initial positions to first and second guide positions upon application of a force in said direction substantially towards said base member.

5. A snowboard binding according to claim 4, wherein

said first latch member is arranged to move from said first guide position to a first locking position to selectively hold a first rear catch portion of a snowboard boot; and

said second latch member is arranged to move from said second guide position to a second locking position to selectively hold a second rear catch portion of the snowboard boot.

6. A snowboard binding according to claim 2, wherein

said first and second latch members are normally urged to first and second initial positions by first and second biasing members, respectively.

7. A snowboard binding according to claim 2, wherein

said first and second latch members are first and second pawls that are normally urged by first and second biasing members from first and second guide positions to first and second locking positions, respectively, said first pawl includes a first locking surface and a first guide surface, said second pawl includes a second locking surface and a second guide surface.

8. A snowboard binding according to claim 7, wherein

said first pawl is pivotally supported about said first pivot axis, and said second pawl is pivotally supported about said second pivot axis.

9. A snowboard binding according to claim 2, wherein

said base member includes a mounting portion and a pair of side attachment portions extending perpendicularly from said mounting portion, said side attachment portions having said first and second latch members coupled thereto, respectively.

10. A snowboard binding according to claim 9, wherein

said base member further includes a highback support extending upwardly relative to said rear portion of said base member.

11. A snowboard binding according to claim 1, further comprising

a front binding member movably coupled to said front portion of said base member between a release position and a latched position.

12. A snowboard binding according to claim 11, wherein

said front binding member includes a front pawl urged to said latched position by a front biasing member that applies an urging force on said front pawl, and a release lever coupled to said front pawl to move said front pawl from said latched position to said release position upon application of a force on said release lever that is greater than said urging force of said front biasing member.

13. A snowboard binding according to claim 11, wherein

said front binding member is longitudinally adjustable relative to said front portion of said base member such that said front binding member can be selectively coupled at different longitudinal positions relative to said base member.

14. A snowboard binding according to claim 13, wherein

said rear binding member is longitudinally adjustable relative to said rear portion of said base member such that said rear binding member can be selectively coupled at different longitudinal positions relative to said base member.

15. A snowboard binding according to claim 1, wherein

said rear binding member is longitudinally adjustable relative to said rear portion of said base member such that said rear binding member can be selectively coupled at different longitudinal positions relative to said base member.

16. A snowboard binding according to claim 2, wherein

said rear portion of said base member includes a base plate with said first and second rear binding members mounted on support members that are slanted upwardly and outwardly relative to said base plate.

17. A snowboard binding according to claim 16, wherein said support members are part of a heel cup with a highback support mounted thereto.

18. A snowboard binding system, comprising:

a snowboard boot having a sole portion, a front catch portion located at a front part of said sole portion, a first rear catch portion located at a first lateral side of said sole portion and a second rear catch portion located at a second lateral side of said sole portion; and

a snowboard binding configured to be releasable coupled to said snowboard boot, said snowboard binding including

a base member having a front portion, a rear portion and a longitudinal axis extending between said front and rear portions;

a front binding member movably coupled to said front portion of said base member between a release position and a latched position to selectively hold said front catch portion;

a first rear binding member coupled to a first lateral side of said rear portion of said base member, said first rear binding member including a first latch member movable relative to said base member to selectively hold said first rear catch portion of said snowboard boot, said first latch member being arranged to move upon application of a force in a direction substantially towards said base member by said snowboard boot; and

a second rear binding member coupled to a second lateral side of said rear portion of said base member, said second rear binding member including a second latch member movable relative to said base member to selectively hold said second rear catch portion of said snowboard boot,

said first and second latch members being arranged to move laterally apart relative to each other upon application of a force in said direction substantially towards said base member by said snowboard boot.

19. A snowboard binding system according to claim 18, wherein said first and second latch members are normally urged to first and second initial positions by first and second biasing members, respectively.

20. A snowboard binding system according to claim 19, wherein said first latch member is pivotally supported about a first pivot axis, and said second latch member is pivotally supported about a second pivot axis.

21. A snowboard binding system according to claim 20, wherein said first and second pivot axes are arranged substantially parallel to said longitudinal axis of said base member.

22. A snowboard binding system according to claim 21, wherein said first and second latch members have first and second elongated locking surfaces, respectively, that are arranged substantially parallel to said longitudinal axis of said base member.

23. A snowboard binding system according to claim 21, wherein said first and second latch members have first and second elongated locking surfaces, respectively, that diverge relative to said longitudinal axis of said base member as said first and second elongated locking surfaces extend from said rear portion of said base member towards said front portion of said base member.

24. A snowboard binding system according to claim 20, wherein said first and second pivot axes diverge relative to said longitudinal axis of said base member as said first and second pivot axes extend from said rear portion of said base member towards said front portion of said base member.

25. A snowboard binding system according to claim 24, wherein said first and second latch members have first and second elongated locking surfaces, respectively, that are arranged substantially parallel to said first and second pivot axes, respectively, such that said first and second elongated locking surfaces

diverge relative to said longitudinal axis of said base member as said first and second elongated locking surfaces extend from said rear portion of said base member towards said front portion of said base member.

26. A snowboard binding system according to claim 18, wherein said first and second latch members are first and second pawls that are normally urged by first and second biasing members from first and second guide positions to first and second locking positions, respectively, said first pawl includes a first locking surface and a first guide surface, said second pawl includes a second locking surface and a second guide surface.

27. A snowboard binding system according to claim 26, wherein said first pawl is pivotally supported about a first pivot axis, and said second pawl is pivotally supported about a second pivot axis.

28. A snowboard binding system according to claim 18, wherein said base member includes a mounting portion and a pair of side attachment portions extending perpendicularly from said mounting portion, said side attachment portions having said first and second latch members coupled thereto, respectively.

29. A snowboard binding system according to claim 28, wherein said base member further includes a highback support extending upwardly relative to said rear portion of said base member.

30. A snowboard binding system according to claim 29, wherein said first and second pivot axes are arranged substantially parallel to said longitudinal axis of said base plate.

31. A snowboard binding system according to claim 30, wherein said front binding member includes a front pawl urged to said latched position by a front biasing member that applies an urging force on said front pawl, and a release lever coupled to said front pawl to move said front pawl from said latched

position to said release position upon application of a force on said release lever that is greater said urging force of said front biasing member.

32. A snowboard binding system according to claim 18, wherein

said first latch member is arranged to hold said first rear catch portion at a plurality of different heights relative to said base member; and

said second latch member is arranged to hold said second rear catch portion at a plurality of different heights relative to said base member.

33. A snowboard binding system according to claim 32, wherein

said first rear catch portion includes a plurality of first notches; and

said second rear catch portion includes a plurality of second notches.

34. A snowboard binding system according to claim 33, wherein

said first notches are located at a first lateral side of said snowboard boot; and

said second notches are located at a second lateral side of said snowboard boot such that said second notches face in a substantially opposite direction from said first notches.

35. A snowboard binding system according to claim 34, wherein

said first notches are elongated in a direction substantially parallel to said longitudinal axis of said base member; and

said second notches are elongated in a direction substantially parallel to said longitudinal axis of said base member.

36. A snowboard binding system according to claim 18, wherein

said front binding member is longitudinally adjustable relative to said front portion of said base member such that said front binding member can be selectively coupled at different longitudinal positions relative to said base member.

37. A snowboard binding system according to claim 36, wherein

said rear binding member is longitudinally adjustable relative to said rear portion of said base member such that said rear binding member can be selectively coupled at different longitudinal positions relative to said base member.

38. A snowboard binding system according to claim 18, wherein

said rear binding member is longitudinally adjustable relative to said rear portion of said base member such that said rear binding member can be selectively coupled at different longitudinal positions relative to said base member.

39. A snowboard binding system according to claim 18, wherein

said rear portion of said base member includes a base plate with said first and second rear binding members mounted on support members that are slanted upwardly and outwardly relative to said base plate.

40. A snowboard binding system according to claim 39, wherein

said support members are part of a heel cup with a highback support mounted thereto.

41. A snowboard boot, comprising:

an upper portion; and

a sole portion coupled to said upper portion, said sole portion having a first rear catch portion located at a first lateral side of said sole portion and a second rear catch portion located at a second lateral side of said sole portion,

said first rear catch portion including at least one first notch and said second rear catch portion including at least one second notch.

42. A snowboard boot according to claim 41, wherein

said first rear catch portion includes a plurality of first notches; and

said second rear catch portion includes a plurality of second notches.

43. A snowboard boot according to claim 42, wherein

said first notches are elongated in a direction substantially parallel to said longitudinal axis of said base member; and

said second notches are elongated in a direction substantially parallel to said longitudinal axis of said base member.

44. A snowboard boot according to claim 42, wherein

said first notches are substantially V-shaped; and

said second notches are substantially V-shaped.

45. A snowboard boot according to claim 42, wherein

each of said first notches has a first abutment surface angled relative to a bottom surface of said sole portion; and

each of said second notches has a second abutment surface angled relative to said bottom surface of said sole portion.

46. A snowboard boot according to claim 41, wherein

said first and second rear catch portions are integrally formed with said sole portion as a one-piece, unitary member.

47. A snowboard boot according to claim 41, wherein

said sole portion includes a front catch portion located at a front part of said sole portion.

48. A snowboard boot according to claim 47, wherein

said front catch portion is a U-shaped member with a bight portion and a pair of leg portions coupled to said sole portion.